

Bicycle Advisory Committee Resolution



To: Minneapolis City Council, Minneapolis Public Works
From: Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee
Date: March 23, 2023
Subject: Johnson St NE/35W Intersection Improvements – 20% Conceptual Design

The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) supports the Johnson Street NE and I-35W Intersection conceptual design's goal of reconstructing this intersection to improve traffic calming, pedestrian-bicycle movement and access to community destinations. Applaudable features include the extension of the existing Johnson Street shared use path (SUP), green boulevards and medians, a reduced crossing distance to the Quarry Shopping Center and a southbound vehicular lane reduction. The conceptual design helps reinforce that the 35W ramp begins and ends south of this intersection rather than at 18th Avenue NE.

The BAC requests that the project team consider the following before its next presentation to this committee:

- Increase the proposed 10' SUP width to 12' to reduce unintentional ped/bike conflicts.
- Add ped/bike pavement symbols at street intersections on the proposed SUP and include the existing Johnson Street SUP (18th to Lowry) to increase user awareness.
- Include the trail spur between the Post Office and Home Depot in the City's bicycle facility winter maintenance program.
- Johnson Street is on the Minneapolis Pedestrian Lighting Corridor and it would be a prudent time to extend pedestrian lighting from 18th Ave NE to the intersection.
- Add overhead vehicle lane signing at the intersection and 18th Ave NE to increase driver awareness of dedicated turn and thru lanes.
- Partner with the Minneapolis Public Arts program to create a Northeast Gateway entrance on the grassy knoll adjacent to the intersection.

We are encouraged to learn that the City is planning to extend a protected bikeway from the Johnson Street intersection to the Northeast Park Recreation Center and 14th Street NE in 2025. The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee would support extending this bikeway to Broadway Street or further.